



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII

**999 18th STREET - SUITE 500
DENVER, COLORADO 80202-2466**

551924

SDMS Document ID



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JUL - 7 1994

FEDERAL ON-SCENE COORDINATOR'S REPORT

LAKEWOOD CYANIDE SITE

Lakewood, Jefferson County

Colorado

3/17/94 - 4/11/94

**UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**



Printed on Recycled Paper

JUL - 7 1994

Ref: 8HWM-ER

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Record

FROM: Mike Zimmerman, OSC
Emergency Response Branch

THROUGH: Cheryl Crisler, Chief
Response Section

John R. Giedt, Chief
Emergency Response Branch

SUBJECT: On-Scene Coordinator's (OSC) Report on CERCLA Removal
Action at the Lakewood Cyanide Site, Lakewood,
Jefferson County, Colorado.

SSID: #7B

I. SUMMARY OF EVENTS

A. Site Conditions and Background

1. Initial situation

The Lakewood Cyanide Site (Site) is located at 2500 Youngfield Street in Lakewood, Colorado. In general, the area of the Site can be described as a busy commercial area closely surrounded by a residential neighborhood. Located at this address is a single-story office building that houses dental offices and a realty/appraisal business. Less than 50 feet away are both businesses and residences. There is considerable automobile and pedestrian traffic throughout the area.

On March 10, 1994, several items were discovered next to a dumpster on the Site. The discarded items included a stainless steel sink, a large flask of the type used in laboratories, and a small metal container labeled - "potassium cyanide." The owner of the property notified the Lakewood Police Department and Region VIII Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Emergency Response Branch (ERB) of his "discovery." Lakewood police placed the container labeled "potassium cyanide" in a 55-gallon steel drum and locked it in a shed on the property.

This Site is not an NPL site nor is it proposed for NPL listing.

2. Location of hazardous substance(s)

The dumpster, where the metal container with "potassium cyanide" was originally found, and the shed, where the container and 55-gallon steel drum were placed, are on the property at 2500 Youngfield Street.

3. Cause of the release or discharge

It appeared that the metal container and other materials had been dumped at the Site in order to get rid of them. The conditions of the Site and the characteristics of potassium cyanide were such that an imminent and substantial endangerment to human health and the environment were present at the Site.

4. Efforts to locate and obtain response by responsible parties

The Site contained abandoned chemicals; however, efforts to identify a PRP have been unproductive thus far.

B. Organization of the Response

The following information identifies the government agencies or parties that provided response assistance and the action(s)/role(s) each served:

Agencies or Parties Involved	Contact	Description of Participation
U.S. EPA - Region VIII Emergency Response Branch 999 18th Street, Suite 500 Denver, Colorado 80202	Mike Zimmerman	Federal OSC responsible for overall response oversight.
Lakewood Police Department 455 South Allison Parkway Lakewood, CO 80226-3105	Brian Nelson Environmental Manager	Responded to Site and placed potentially hazardous materials in temporary storage.

Ecology and Environment Technical Assistance Team (TAT) 1776 Jackson Street Denver, CO 80210	Scott Keen	Provided OSC with technical assistance and Site documentation.
Riedel Environmental Services (ERCS) 4975 Paris Street Denver, CO 80239 (303) 288-8703	Bruce Wilson	Provided cleanup services.

C. Injury or Possible Injury to Natural Resources

No notification was made to natural resource trustees regarding injury or possible injury to natural resources and no damage assessment activities were undertaken by Federal or State trustees.

D. Chronological Narrative of Response Actions

1. Threat abatement actions taken

On March 17, 1994, EPA, EPA's TAT, and EPA's ERCS contractor were mobilized to the Site. The 55-gallon steel drum, with the small metal container inside it, was transported to a temporary storage facility at Building 11, National Investigation Center (NEIC), at the Denver Federal Center. A qualitative test was performed by TAT on the waste material, and the test confirmed that the white\granulated solid was cyanide material. The 55-gallon drum was repacked for shipping consistent with 49 CFR Part 106, Department of Transportation Regulations.

After taking competitive bids, EPA ERCS had the material transported via Rollins CHEMPAK, Inc., on April 11, 1994, from NEIC to Rollins Environmental Services, Inc., an approved facility for incineration which is located in Deer Park, Texas. However, it was sent initially to Rollins' intermediary facility in Los Angeles, California.

2. Treatment, disposal, or alternative technology approaches pursued

No other method of disposal was considered.

3. Public information and community relations activities

A Community Relations plan was not prepared for this Site. An Administrative Record File was compiled and copies are available at the USEPA Region VIII office in Denver, Colorado.

E. Resources Committed

The following are the costs estimated to be incurred for the project Removal activities.

Extramural Costs:

Cleanup Contractor Costs	\$ 1,500
TAT Costs	<u>.500</u>
EXTRAMURAL SUBTOTAL	\$ 2,000
Intramural Costs:	\$ <u>600</u>
ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	\$ 2,600 =====
PROJECT CEILING	\$ 6,800 =====

II. EFFECTIVENESS OF REMOVAL ACTIONS

A. Actions Taken by PRPs

No PRP was identified.

B. Actions Taken By State and Local Agencies

The Lakewood Police Department initially responded to the Site and placed the metal container in a 55-gallon steel drum in a shed on-site.

C. Actions Taken by Federal Agencies and Special Teams

The Region VIII EPA ERB responded to the request for assistance; no assistance was provided by NRT or RRT or other Federal agencies during the Removal.

D. Actions Taken by Contractors, Private Groups, and Volunteers

The EPA ERCS contractor, Riedel Environmental Services, and the TAT contractor, Ecology and Environment, provided timely assistance with assessment, staging, and disposal of the hazardous substance.

III. Difficulties Encountered

A. Items that Affected the Response

No problems were encountered during the Removal Action.

B. Issues of Intergovernmental Coordination

No problems were encountered during the Removal action.

**C. Difficulties Interpreting, Complying With, or
Implementing Policies and Regulations**

No problems were encountered during the Removal Action.

IV. Recommendations

The OSC has no recommendations to offer as a result of the activities of this removal.

SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTS

Support/referenced documents which may be helpful to the reader and/or have been cited in this OSC report may be found in the Administrative Record file at the EPA Superfund Records Center for Region VIII, 999 18th Street, Denver, Colorado 80202. Some of these documents are:

1. Action Memorandum, dated May 11, 1994.
2. POLREPs for the Site.

CONCURRENCE COPY

JUL - 7 1994

FEDERAL ON-SCENE COORDINATOR'S REPORT

LAKEWOOD CYANIDE SITE

Lakewood, Jefferson County

Colorado

3/17/94 - 4/11/94

**UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

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I. SUMMARY OF EVENTS

A. Site Conditions and Background

1. Initial situation

The Lakewood Cyanide Site (Site) is located at 2500 Youngfield Street in Lakewood, Colorado. In general, the area of the Site can be described as a busy commercial area closely surrounded by a residential neighborhood. Located at this address is a single-story office building that houses dental offices and a realty/appraisal business. Less than 50 feet away are both businesses and residences. There is considerable automobile and pedestrian traffic throughout the area.

On March 10, 1994, several items were discovered next to a dumpster on the Site. The discarded items included a stainless steel sink, a large flask of the type used in laboratories, and a small metal container labeled - "potassium cyanide." The owner of the property notified the Lakewood Police Department and Region VIII Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Emergency Response Branch (ERB) of his "discovery." Lakewood police placed the container labeled "potassium cyanide" in a 55-gallon steel drum and locked it in a shed on the property.

This Site is not an NPL site nor is it proposed for NPL listing.

2. Location of hazardous substance(s)

The dumpster, where the metal container with "potassium cyanide" was originally found, and the shed, where the container and 55-gallon steel drum were placed, are on the property at 2500 Youngfield Street.

3. Cause of the release or discharge

It appeared that the metal container and other materials had been dumped at the Site in order to get rid of them. The conditions of the Site and the characteristics of potassium cyanide were such that an imminent and substantial endangerment to human health and the environment were present at the Site.

4. Efforts to locate and obtain response by responsible parties

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C. Injury or Possible Injury to Natural Resources

No notification was made to natural resource trustees regarding injury or possible injury to natural resources and no damage assessment activities were undertaken by Federal or State trustees.

D. Chronological Narrative of Response Actions

1. Threat abatement actions taken

On March 17, 1994, EPA, EPA's TAT, and EPA's ERCS contractor were mobilized to the Site. The 55-gallon steel drum, with the small metal container inside it, was transported to a temporary storage facility at Building 11, National Investigation Center (NEIC), at the Denver Federal Center. A qualitative test was performed by TAT on the waste material, and the test confirmed that the white granulated solid was cyanide material. The 55-gallon drum was repacked for shipping consistent with 49 CFR Part 106, Department of Transportation Regulations.

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2. Treatment, disposal, or alternative technology approaches pursued

No other method of disposal was considered.

3. Public information and community relations activities

A Community Relations plan was not prepared for this Site. An Administrative Record File was compiled and copies are available at the USEPA Region VIII office in Denver, Colorado.

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II. EFFECTIVENESS OF REMOVAL ACTIONS

A. Actions Taken by PRPs

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B. Actions Taken By State and Local Agencies

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C. Actions Taken by Federal Agencies and Special Teams

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III. Difficulties Encountered

A. Items that Affected the Response

No problems were encountered during the Removal Action.

B. Issues of Intergovernmental Coordination

No problems were encountered during the Removal action.

C. Difficulties Interpreting, Complying With, or Implementing Policies and Regulations

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IV. Recommendations

The OSC has no recommendations to offer as a result of the activities of this removal.

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FCD: June 13, 1994, Zimmerman, mgs,

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Lakewood, Jefferson County

Colorado

3/17/94 - 4/11/94

**UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

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Emergency Response Branch (ERB) of his "discovery." Lakewood police placed the container labeled "potassium cyanide" in a 55-gallon steel drum and locked it in a shed on the property.

This Site is not an NPL site nor is it proposed for NPL listing.

2. Location of hazardous substance(s)

The dumpster, where the metal container with "potassium cyanide" was originally found, and the shed, where the container and 55-gallon steel drum were placed, are on the property at 2500 Youngfield Street.

3. Cause of the release or discharge

It appeared that the metal container and other materials had been dumped at the Site in order to get rid of them. ~~A hazardous substance had not yet been released, but the~~ conditions of the Site and the characteristics of potassium were such that an imminent and substantial endangerment to human health and the environment were present at the Site. *cyanide*

4. Efforts to locate and obtain response by responsible parties

The Site contained abandoned chemicals; however, efforts to identify a PRP have been unproductive thus far.

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It appeared that the metal container and other materials had been dumped at the Site in or on them. ~~A hazardous substance had not yet been~~ conditions of the Site and the characteristics such that an imminent and substantial endangerment to health and the environment were present at

The abandonment of a haz. substance is in itself a "release" even if the container is still intact.

4. Efforts to locate and obtain responsible parties

The Site contained abandoned chemical waste. Efforts to identify a PRP have been unproductive.

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Region VIII

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IV. Recommendations

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